

TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM

(Active Duty Family Members ~ January 2005)

The TRICARE Dental Program - OCONUS (TDP-O) is available for active-duty family members to use in Korea. The most unique feature of using the TDP-O in Korea, in contrast to using it in CONUS, is that all use of the TDP-O must be coordinated through local military dental clinics. Additional details and guidelines are available from the TRICARE Representative at Dental Clinic #2, Yongsan (736-5051/4779), and by viewing on-line information available at: <http://www.ucci.com/was/uccweb/tdp/tdp.jsp>. This website is maintained by United Concordia, the contractor for the TDP-O. The "Reference Materials" link provides access to benefit booklets, frequently asked questions and answers and the enrollment/disenrollment form.

To use the TDP-O, family members must be enrolled. Enrollment is valid worldwide. If an active-duty soldier's family members were enrolled in the TDP in CONUS and were not disenrolled before coming to Korea, their enrollment is still valid. An active-duty service member has 90 calendar days after relocating enrolled family members to Korea to decide to keep them enrolled, or to disenroll them without penalty. Ideally, family members should check with the local military dental clinic to see how well their treatment needs can be supported before making a decision to disenroll. If valid disenrollment is not done within the 90-day grace period after relocation, family members must stay enrolled in the program until the initial 12-month enrollment obligation is completed, or a penalty will be imposed for "non-valid" disenrollment. After this 12-month obligation, they may be disenrolled at any time without penalty. If they are disenrolled for a non-valid reason, they can't be re-enrolled until 12 months have passed since disenrollment.

If active-duty family members are not currently enrolled in the TDP, they may be enrolled on-line at the Internet address above, or the enrollment/disenrollment form can be downloaded to mail in. Contact the TRICARE Representative at Dental Clinic #2 in Yongsan if you need assistance with enrollment. Coverage usually begins the first day of the month after the month in which enrollment occurs. Generally, the completed enrollment form must be received and processed by the United Concordia by the 20th of the month if you wish coverage to begin the next month. The website listed above also contains a great deal of information about benefits, costs, procedures and requirements as well as information on contacting United Concordia.

The TDP-O has certain requirements that are unique to OCONUS locations. Enrollees must first seek dental care from their local military dental clinic. Dental care that can't be provided in the military clinics will be referred to a civilian dentist, if the enrollee chooses to do so. Specific paperwork must be completed for these referrals and a dentist on the list of approved providers must provide the care. The TRICARE Representative will assist with these procedures. Please note these important differences in how the TDP-O is administered here, compared with the stateside TDP. The TDP-O will not reimburse for dental treatment from a civilian dentist obtained any other way.

The level of reimbursement for procedures covered under the TDP-O is higher in Korea for certain categories than in CONUS. Many procedures are reimbursed at 100% of the costs. For some procedures, the patient must pay part of the costs.

The TRICARE Representative can provide you with information on the cost-share percentages.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- TDP-O is available in Korea
- Active-duty family members must be enrolled in the Program before they can utilize the benefits
- TDP-O enrollees are referred to civilian dentists for specific procedures
- Contact the TRICARE Representative before attempting to utilize the TDP

The TRICARE Dental Representative for Korea is Mr. Suh, located in Dental Clinic #2, Yongsan, at **736-5051** or 736-4779. From a civilian phone, dial (02)-7916-5051 or (02)-7916-4779. Mr. Suh helps support Areas III and IV as well, so if you can't speak with him directly when you call, please tell the front desk (736-4779) that you'd like him to return your call about the TRICARE Dental Program - OCONUS. They will take your personal information so Mr. Suh can check your TDP enrollment and contact you. Thank you.

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